GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:356
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
World Bank's Report on Climate Change
Reddy Shri Ponguleti Srinivasa

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of World Bank's report regarding adverse impact of climate change and global warming on agriculture and poverty in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to develop heat-tolerant crops for preventing adverse consequences of climate change on food security for poor people?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and Climate Analytics, Washington DC published a report entitled, "Turn Down the Heat: Climate Extremes, Regional Impacts, and the Case for Resilience" for World Bank in June 2013.

A significant reduction in yield of crops especially rice and wheat due to heat extremes and reduced availability of irrigation water primarily in states of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka has been reported. Further, longer dry spells in rainfed areas will make agriculture more risk prone. The summary of report related to India is presented in Annexure-I.

(c) The National Agricultural Research System (NARS) comprising ICAR, Central Agricultural Universities and SAUs are taking adequate steps to develop suitable varieties which can withstand the severe weather aberrations including high temperature and deficient rainfall/ drought. Short duration varieties have also been released to escape or overcome the vagaries of weather. The details are presented in Annexure-II.

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